

Environmental Restoration Project



Area of Concern (AOC) No. 1028: Building 6560 Septic System, TA-III

ADS: 1295

Operable Unit: Septic Tanks and Drainfields

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Site History

Historical SNL/NM Facilities Engineering drawings indicate that this septic system consisted of a septic tank plumbed to a single seepage pit and was located approximately 70 feet southwest of southwest corner of Building 6560, in TA-III. It is assumed that this septic system was abandoned in the early 1990s when the City of Albuquerque sanitary sewer system was extended into TA-III. No other historical research has been conducted for this site.

Constituents of Concern

Constituents of concern for this site are unknown.

Current Hazards

No known surface hazards have been identified. Environmental characterization has not been conducted at the site; therefore potential subsurface environmental hazards are unknown.

Current Status of Work

Samples were collected from the septic tank in late 1990 or early 1991, 1992, and 1995 for waste characterization purposes. The tank was pumped out and cleaned in March 1996.

A field inspection was conducted at the site in September 1999 and the septic system (septic tank and seepage pit in the southwest corner of the fenced facility yard) were located and determined to still be intact. A second seepage pit on the east side of the facility was also subsequently identified approximately two years after the initial inspection with NMED was conducted. To

determine if environmental contamination is present beneath this system and in accordance with agreements reached with NMED personnel, additional sampling was conducted at this site. As shown on the site map, passive soil vapor samplers were installed at four locations around the septic system seepage pit in April 2002 to detect the presence or absence of VOCs at the site. Passive soil vapor sampling around the east seepage pit was not conducted, as this unit was undiscovered when the site inspection was conducted with NMED in September 1999. One soil sample boring was also drilled directly beneath the center of the septic system seepage pit, and a second boring was also drilled in the center of, and beneath the east seepage pit in August 2002. Soil samples collected from these borings were analyzed for volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), total cyanide, high explosive (HE) compounds, metals, and radionuclides.

Future Work Planned

This site may be selected for deeper environmental characterization sampling if analytical results from the shallow sampling indicate potentially significant contamination at depth.

Waste Volume Estimated/Generated

A total of 350 gallons of effluent (including water added to facilitate pumping) was removed from the septic tank in March 1996. No environmental characterization or remediation waste has been generated at the site to date.

Information for ER Site 1026 was last updated Jan 17, 2003.